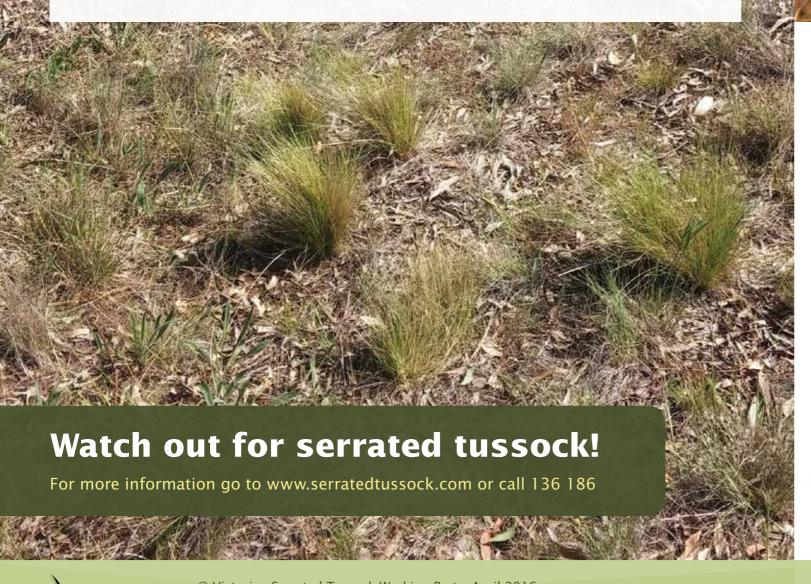
Prevention is the most cost effective control method

With the understanding that most weeds are spread through similar pathways, such as the movement of goods, animals and machinery, it is clear that early detection, prevention and intervention is the most cost effective method for managing weeds.

Who is the Victorian Serrated Tussock Working Party?

The VSTWP is an incorporated non-profit organisation, established in 1995 following concern from the community about the rapid spread of serrated tussock across the landscape to Melbourne's west.





What is serrated tussock?

Serrated tussock (*Nassella trichotoma*) is a noxious weed that produces large amounts of seed, and is known to invade both agricultural land and native vegetation.

Serrated tussock seed is easily spread and scattered plants may often go unnoticed until a sizeable infestation has established.

How do I prevent serrated tussock from establishing on my property?

A simpler option for landowners is to prevent serrated tussock from becoming a problem from the beginning.

This can be achieved by recognising some common ways serrated tussock, and other weeds, readily find their way onto a property and by adopting a few simple preventative measures.





© Victorian Serrated Tussock Working Party, April 2016.

Disclaimer: This publication may be of assistance to you but the Victorian Serrated Tussock Working Party do not guarantee that this publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.





Common ways serrated tussock is spread

Image Source: DPI Vic

Seed can enter your property through a variety of ways.



Seed branches of serrated tussock are easily dislodged by the wind and can be blown up to 20 kilometres away, spreading seed across the landscape.



Seeds can stick to clothing and shoes.



Livestock can carry serrated tussock seeds in their wool, droppings and in mud attached to their legs and feet.



Serrated tussock seeds are small and often go unnoticed.



Operating vehicles in areas with serrated tussock can lead to seeds becoming caught on tyres, mudguards, radiators, and slashers.



Gravel, sand, soil or mulch brought in for landscaping or track maintenance can contain serrated tussock seeds.



So too can fodder acquired from an unknown source.

How to reduce the risk



Treat serrated tussock before it seeds to prevent seed spreading to other parts of your property and neighbouring properties.



Avoid travelling through areas with serrated tussock. Wash down dirty vehicles and equipment before they leave your property or enter non-infested areas.



Use a containment area to isolate newly introduced livestock. Feed stock in a dedicated location. Only buy feed that is guaranteed to be weed free and avoid product sourced from known serrated tussock areas.



Maintain a healthy ground-cover to help minimise the potential of serrated tussock establishing.



Plant a vegetation buffer or install a fine netting fence along your property boundary to limit the entry of serrated tussock seeds.



Ensure machinery and vehicles entering your property are free from seeds and mud. Have a dedicated washdown spot that can be monitored for the appearance of any unwanted plants.



Monitor for the emergence of any unwanted or unknown plants and treat quickly to prevent establishment and seeding.